



NEWS RELEASE

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
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Still Time to Be Counted in the 2020 Local Food Marketing Practices Survey

WASHINGTON, Feb. 23, 2021 – Farmers and ranchers still have time to respond to their 2020 Local Food Marketing Practices Survey, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS). NASS will continue to accept responses through April to ensure an accurate picture of U.S. local and regional food systems.

"The Local Food Marketing Practices Survey is conducted in support of the growing demand for local and regional food systems," said NASS Administrator Hubert Hamer. "The data are vital to understanding the many benefits of this sector. They will inform industry decisions and assist producers, researchers, policymakers, USDA officials, and more. NASS is committed to giving producers every opportunity to be counted in this special study."

The 2020 Local Food Marketing Practices Survey is part of the Census of Agriculture program and as such is required by federal law. These federal laws require producers to respond and USDA to keep identities and answers confidential. Over the next several weeks, NASS will follow-up with additional mailings and phone calls to farmers and ranchers who have not yet responded. Producers are encouraged to complete their questionnaire online at www.agcounts.usda.gov, by mail, or phone as soon as possible. All information collected will be used for statistical purposes only and published on the NASS website in aggregate form this November.

To learn more about NASS and the Local Foods Marketing Practices Survey, visit www.nass.usda.gov/go/local-food. If you have questions or difficulty completing your survey, please call toll-free 888-424-7828.

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